

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgement of allowable subject matter contained in claim 58.

Claims 16 and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kubo et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,295,109). In response, Applicants amended claim 16 to define gate lines and drain lines on one of the pair of substrates, such that a plurality of stripe electrodes are disposed entirely within an area bordered by the gate lines and the drain lines, and respectfully traverse. Applicants amended claim 29 to define first and second groups of stripe electrodes and the transparent electrode as receiving either a voltage which corresponds to image data or a common voltage, and that alignment of the liquid crystal is changed according to an electric field between the first and second groups of stripe electrodes, and an electric field between the first group of stripe electrodes and the transparent electrode, and respectfully traverse.

The Examiner cites FIG. 7a of Kubo as showing first groups 21 and second groups 32 of strip electrodes that are parallel to each other and supplied with first and second voltages different from each other. That is, the Examiner identifies the gate line 21 and the storage capacitance line 32 of Kubo as stripe electrodes. However, these elements are different from the structure of the present invention, as now recited in the amended claims.

More specifically, the present application now affirmatively recites in claim 16, gate lines and drain lines on one of the pair of substrates such that the plurality of stripe

electrodes are disposed entirely within an area bordered by the gate lines and the drain lines. FIG. 3 of the present application is representative of the stripe electrodes 22 which are positioned within the area defined by gate bus lines 30 and data bus lines 32. Moreover, the stripe electrodes 22 are parallel to one another. (See also FIG. 32 and Applicants specification page 33, lines 2-5).

With respect to claim 29, the first and second groups of stripe electrodes have either a voltage corresponding to image data or a voltage corresponding to a common voltage. The second group of stripe electrodes has the same voltage as the transparent electrode, such that alignment of liquid crystal is changed according to an electric field between the first group of stripe electrodes and the second group of stripe electrodes, and an electric field between the first group of stripe electrodes and the transparent electrode. In Kubo, the gate line 21 and the storage capacitance line 32 are completely different than the structure of the present invention, and cannot align the liquid crystal molecules as in the present invention.

Accordingly, since Kubo fails to disclose or suggest gate and bus lines that are separate from the stripe electrodes positioned within the area defined by the gate lines and the bus lines, as recited in claim 16, or first and second electrodes and a transparent layer that receives an image data voltage or a common voltage to change alignment of liquid crystal, as recited in claim 26, withdrawal of the §102(e) rejection of claim 16 and 29 is respectfully requested.

Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kubo, and further in view of Ohe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,600,464). Applicants traverse the rejection for the reasons recited above with respect to the rejection of independent claim 16.

Ohe is merely cited by the Examiner as disclosing an insulating layer made of SiN with a prescribed volume resistivity and an alignment layer made of polyamide with a prescribed volume resistivity. However, Ohe also fails to disclose or suggest the gate and bus lines of the present invention having the defined stripe electrodes, as now recited in amended claim 16. Accordingly, withdrawal of the §103 rejection of dependent claim 17 is respectfully requested.

Claims 65-67 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over either Kubo or Kubo in view of Ohe, and further in view of Katayama (U.S. Patent No. 6,100,947). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claim 65-66 for the reasons recited above with respect to the rejection of independent claim 16.

Since claims 65-66 ultimately depend upon claim 16, respectively, they necessarily include all of the features of their associated independent claims plus other additional features. Thus, Applicants submit that the §103 rejection of claims 65-66 has also been overcome for the same reasons mentioned above to overcome the rejection of independent claim 16, and also because Katayama fails to overcome the deficiencies of the Kubo and Ohe references. Applicants respectfully request that the §103 rejection of claims 65-66 also be withdrawn.

Claim 16 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nishida et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,052,168) in view of Oh et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,812,985). Applicants traverse the rejection for the reasons recited above with respect to the rejection of claim 16 based on Kubo.

The Examiner cites Nishida as teaching stripe electrodes including a first group 2 and a second group 1, 20 of stripe electrodes parallel to each other that are being supplied with first and second different voltages. However, the first group of stripe electrodes, which is identified as the pixel electrode 2 by the Examiner, is not disposed entirely within an area bordered by the scanning line 4 and the opposing electrode bus line 3 (i.e., the gate lines and the drain lines), as now recited in amended claim 16. Oh also fails to teach or suggest this feature. For this reason, withdrawal of the §103 rejection of claim 16 is respectfully requested.

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that this Application is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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